

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE 0633

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 227678

EXDIS

PLEASE PASS SECRETARY VANCE'S PARTY AT CAMP DAVID, FOR KAMER,
SAUNDERS OR ATHERTON

FOLLOWING REPEAT TEL AVIV 11950 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BEIRUT
DAMASCUS, JERUSALEM, AND USUN NEW YORK DATED 305 7, 1978.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 11950

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, UN, LE, IS

SUBJECT: UNIFIL FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND DEPLOYMENT IN THE
CHRISTIAN ENCLAVES

REF: (A) STATE 226007 (B) JERUSALEM 2466

1. ADCM CALLED WEIZMAN AIDE MAJOR SHUR THE MORNING OF
SEPTEMBER 7 TO DISCUSS UNIFIL. AFTER SHUR WAS GIVEN THE
GIST OF PARA 1 REF A, HE WAS ASKED WHAT THE GOI'S UNDER-
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STANDING WAS OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. SHUR SAID HE WOULD
HAVE TO CHECK AND CALL BACK.

2. HART TALKED TO SHUR AGAIN AT 1330 HOURS. SHUR STARTED
BY SAYING THAT HE HAD BRIEFED ACTING PRIME MINISTER/ACTING
DEFENSE MINISTER YADIN ON THE MORNING CONVERSATION. THE
DEFENSE MINISTRY, ACCORDING TO SHUR, DOES NOT KNOW THE

EXACT PRESENT STATUS OF UNIFIL/CHRISTIAN RELATIONS. HE SAID THAT THE GOI "WOULD DO ITS BEST TO ACHIEVE FULL IMPLEMENTATION" OF ITS AUGUST 30 COMMITMENTS. THIS IS DIFFICULT, HOWEVER, AND HAS BEEN FURTHER COMPLICATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON'S RECENT STATEMENT WHICH IN EFFECT DISMISSED HADDAD AND SHIDIAC FROM THE LEBANESE ARMY, SHUR CLAIMED. AS A RESULT, THE MEETING SCHEDULED SEPTEMBER 6 WITH THE UN WAS POSTPONED AND NO FURTHER MEETINGS ARE PRESENTLY SCHEDULED.

3. ADCM ASKED WHAT HAPPENS NEXT. SHUR RESPONDED THAT, AFTER FINDING OUT THE FULL FACTS ON THE GROUND, THE GOI PLANNED TO HAVE INTERNAL DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBJECT. FOLLOWING THAT, HE PROMISED TO UPDATE THE EMBASSY.

4. COMMENT: IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT UNDER THE BEST OF CIRCUMSTANCES TO GET CHRISTIAN COOPERATION FOR THE EXPANDED DEPLOYMENT AND FREER MOVEMENT OF UNIFIL IN THE ENCLAVES. THE GOL PRONOUNCEMENT ON HADDAD AND SHIDIAC WAS THE PERFECT EXCUSE FOR THEM TO CANCEL THE DEAL ENTIRELY. IMPLICIT, IF NOT EXPLICIT, IN GOI SUPPORT FOR EXPANDED UNIFIL OPERATIONS WAS THAT THE STATUS OF THE TWO CHRISTIAN MILITARY LEADERS WOULD BE LEFT UNRESOLVED.

5. WE WILL PRESS THE GOI TO CONVINCE THE CHRISTIANS TO HONOR WEIZMAN'S AUGUST 30 COMMITMENT. THERE IS NO ASSUR-
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ANCE THAT WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. WE CONCUR WITH CONGEN NEWLIN'S JUDGEMENT THAT THE QUICKEST PATH TO A CLEAR INDICATION OF GOI INTENTIONS WOULD BE TO RAISE THE SUBJECT WITH WEIZMAN OR BEGIN AT CAMP DAVID. VIETS
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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